

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 STATE 063258

54

ORIGIN L-02

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 A-01 SS-15 SCCT-01 SY-05 ISO-00 /035 R

DRAFTED BY L/SFP:LGFIELDS,JR.:NMC

APPROVED BY L/SFP:LGFIELDS,JR.

----- 023867

O 201941Z MAR 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO STEPHEN G NELSON ASSIST US ATTORNEY CHIEF

CRIMINAL DIV OFF OF US ATTORNEY US COURT HOUSE SAN DIEGO CALIF

UNCLAS STATE 063258

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:

SUBJECT: UNITED STATES V. BOBBY JOE KEESEE

1. WE APPRECIATE YOUR ADVICE CONCERNING THE DISPOSITION OF THE CASE AGAINST BOBBY JOE KEESEE PRESENTLY PENDING BEFORE THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA AND ARE GRATEFUL FOR YOUR DETAILED EXPLANATION TO OFFICERS OF THE DEPARTMENT AND MEMBERS OF THE PATTERSON FAMILY CONCERNING THE PLEA-BARGAINING PROCESS AND ITS EFFECT AS TO THIS CASE.

2. THE DEPARTMENT, AS YOU KNOW, HAS A SPECIAL INTEREST IN THIS CASE. THE CONSPIRACY, TO WHICH MR. KEESEE HAS PLEADED GUILTY, WAS FOR THE PURPOSE OF KIDNAPPING A UNITED STATES CONSULAR OFFICER. UNITED STATES VICE CONSUL JOHN S. PATTERSON, A FOREIGN SERVICE OFFICER, WAS, IN FACT, KIDNAPPED FROM OUR CONSULATE IN HERMOSILLO, MEXICO AND THEREAFTER MURDERED. MR. KEESEE WAS INDICTED FOR THE KIDNAP-MURDER OF MR. PATTERSON; HOWEVER, UNDER THE TERMS OF THE AGREEMENT REACHED BY PLEA-BARGAINING, THE GOVERNMENT WILL DISMISS THESE CHARGES WITH PREJUDICE. FROM AN INSTITUTIONAL VIEWPOINT, THE DEPARTMENT WOULD HAVE PREFERRED TO SEE MR. KEESEE'S CULPABILITY AS TO THESE SUBSTANTIVE CHARGES RESOLVED BY A JURY TRIAL; HOWEVER, WE HAVE EVERY CONFIDENCE IN YOUR HANDLING OF THE CASE AND

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 STATE 063258

RESPECT YOUR JUDGMENT, AS WELL AS THAT OF THE COURT, THAT

THIS IS A PROPER DISPOSITION OF THIS CASE.

3. I SHOULD INDICATE TO YOU THAT WE SHARE THE DISAPPOINTMENT OF THE PATTERSON FAMILY OVER THE INADEQUATE EXPLANATION WITH RESPECT TO MR. PATTERSON'S CONNECTION WITH THE CRIME ADVANCED BY MR. KEESEE AT THE FEBRUARY 28TH HEARING ON THE PLEA. THE RATIONALE OF MR. PATTERSON'S SELECTION AS THE OBJECT OF THIS CRIME IS OF SIGNIFICANT INTEREST TO ALL CONCERNED AND WE SHALL CONTINUE TO STRESS THE NEED TO HAVE SOME EXPLANATION OF THIS IMPORTANT ASPECT OF THE CASE.

4. I AM ADVISED THAT YOU INTEND TO URGE THE COURT TO IMPOSE THE MAXIMUM ALLOWABLE PUNISHMENT FOR THIS OFFENSE, LIFE IMPRISONMENT. WITH ALL DUE REGARD FOR THE ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE, WE FULLY SUPPORT YOUR EFFORT TO ACHIEVE A JUST SENTENCE WHICH IS EQUATED TO THE GRAVITY OF THIS CRIME, TO WHICH MR. KEESEE HAS ADMITTED HIS GUILT.

5. THE DEPARTMENT IS PARTICULARLY CONCERNED AS TO THE DETERRENT EFFECT WHICH THIS CASE CAN HAVE ON THOSE WHO MIGHT BE TEMPTED TO PERPETRATE SIMILAR CRIMES IN THE FUTURE. FROM OUR INSTITUTIONAL VIEW WE SEE A DUAL DETERRENT EFFECT TO BE ACHIEVED. INITIALLY IT IS REASONABLE TO ASSUME THAT AN APPROPRIATE SENTENCE FOR A CONSPIRACY TO KIDNAP A FOREIGN SERVICE OFFICER WOULD DISCOURAGE CRIMINAL OR TERRORIST ELEMENTS FROM TARGETING OUR PEOPLE ABROAD. DESPITE THE INCREASED SECURITY WE HAVE PROVIDED, WE NEVERTHELESS RECOGNIZE THE INHERENT VULNERABILITY OF FOREIGN SERVICE PERSONNEL STATIONED AROUND THE WORLD AND VALUE ANY ADDITIONAL DETERRENCE TO WOULD-BE KIDNAPPERS.

6. IN THE BROADER SENSE, THE DEPARTMENT HAS THE RESPONSIBILITY TO OVERSEE THE ONGOING ACTIVITY TO PREVENT TERRORISM GLOBALLY, ESPECIALLY WHERE IT INVOLVES INTERNATIONALLY PROTECTED PERSONS. A PRESIDENTIAL DIRECTIVE OF SEPTEMBER 25, 1972 CREATED A CABINET COMMITTEE TO COMBAT TERRORISM, CHAIRED BY THE SECRETARY OF STATE. IN DISCHARGING THIS UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 STATE 063258

RESPONSIBILITY WE ARE SENSITIVE TO THOSE EFFECTIVE METHODS OF DETERRENCE WHICH OUR EXPERIENCE HAS CONFIRMED. APPREHENSION AND PUNISHMENT OF TERRORISTS IS ACKNOWLEDGED TO BE THE MOST EFFECTIVE DETERRENT TO TERRORISM. IN OUR VIEW THIS GOVERNMENT'S FIRM NO-CONCESSION POLICY AND VIGOROUS PROSECUTION OF THOSE PERSONS WHO COMMIT TERRORIST

ACTS HAVE MINIMIZED TERRORIST ACTIVITIES IN THE UNITED

STATES. AS IN THE CASE OF THE CONCURRENT LIFE SENTENCES GIVEN TO THE TERRORIST WHO ASSASSINATED TWO TURKISH DIPLOMATS IN SANTA BARBARA, MAXIMUM PUNISHMENT IN THIS CASE COULD, IN OUR OPINION, HAVE A SALUTARY DETERRENT EFFECT ON ANYONE WHO WOULD CONTEMPLATE AN OFFENSE INVOLVING DIPLOMATIC OR CONSULAR OFFICERS AND WOULD ADD CREDIBILITY TO OUR EFFORTS IN COMBATTING TERRORISM.

7. I TRUST THAT YOU WILL TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THIS EXPRESSION OF THE DEPARTMENT'S CONCERNS AS YOU CONTINUE YOUR EFFORTS TO INSURE THAT JUSTICE WILL BE SERVED IN THE SENTENCING PHASE OF THIS CASE.
SINCERELY, ROBERT S. INGERSOLL (SIGNED) ACTING
SECRETARY.

INGERSOLL

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 20 MAR 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE063258
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: LGFIELDS,JR.:NMC
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: SECSTATE WASHDC
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750329/aaaabani.tel
Line Count: 131
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ORIGIN L
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: woolflhd
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 26 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <26 JUN 2003 by JonesKG>; APPROVED <06 JAN 2004 by woolflhd>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: UNITED STATES V. BOBBY JOE KEESEE
TAGS: n/a
To: STEPHEN G NELSON ASSIST US ATTORNEY CRIMINAL DIV OFF OF US ATTORNEY US C
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006